

REMARKS

In the Office Action¹ mailed April 28, 2009, the Examiner rejected claim 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Davis (U.S. Patent No. 6,619,804, hereafter "Davis"); rejected claims 14 and 16-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hiller (U.S. Patent No. 6,233,024, hereafter "Hiller") in view of Davis²; and rejected claim 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hiller in view of Davis and in further view of Cotton (U.S. Patent No. 6,719,430, hereafter "Cotton"). Claims 14-20 remain pending and under consideration.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claim 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Davis.

Claim 14 recites a projection-type image display apparatus, comprising, among other things, "a projection optical system for enlarged projection from a primary image surface toward the modulation means to a secondary image surface toward a screen, wherein the projection optical system includes: a first optical system that forms an intermediate image of the primary image surface; and a second optical system having a concave reflector that forms the secondary image surface according to the intermediate image," (emphasis added). Davis fails to teach or suggest at least these elements.

Davis, at column 5, lines 6-20, states:

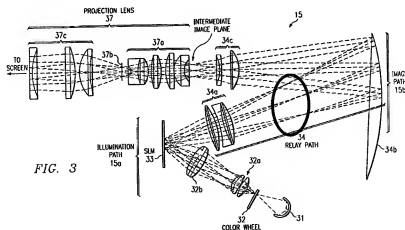
¹ The Office Action contains a number of statements reflecting characterizations of the related art and the claims. Regardless of whether any such statement is identified herein, Applicants decline to automatically subscribe to any statement or characterization in the Office Action.

² The Examiner indicated that claims 14 and 16-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hiller, Davis, and Cotton. Office Action at 3. However, the Examiner did not discuss Cotton with respect to claims 14 and 16-20. Accordingly, Applicants assume that the Examiner intended to reject claims 14 and 16-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hiller and Davis.

Relay path 34 has a first set of lenses 34a, a mirror 34b, and a second set of lenses 34c. The first set of lenses 34a receives offset light reflected from SLM 33. The light rays pass through lenses 34a offset relative to the center of lenses 34a. . . .

The second set of lenses 34c in the relay path 34 receives light reflected from mirror 34b. It creates an image of the SLM 33, at an intermediate image plane.

(Emphasis added). Accordingly, Davis at best discloses that the second set of lenses 34c form an intermediate image. Davis does not disclose that the first set of lenses 34a form an image before a light beam reaches mirror 34b. The light beam crossings marked in the below reproduced Figure 3 of Davis do not constitute an image. Accordingly, lenses 34c cannot reasonably correspond to the claimed first optical system. For at least these reasons, Davis fails to teach or suggest, "a first optical system that forms an intermediate image of the primary image surface; and a second optical system having a concave reflector that forms the secondary image surface according to the intermediate image," as recited in claim 14. Therefore, claim 14 is distinguishable over Davis.



Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 14 and 16-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hiller in view of Davis.

The Examiner acknowledged that "Hiller fails to teach a projection optical system . . . wherein the projection optical system includes: a first optical system that forms an intermediate image of the primary image surface; and a second optical system having a concave reflector that forms the secondary image surface according to the intermediate image." Office Action at 4. The Examiner cited Davis to cure the deficiencies of Hiller. For at least the reasons set forth above, Davis fails to cure the deficiencies of Hiller. Accordingly, claim 14 is distinguishable over Hiller and Davis.

Claims 16-20 depend from claim 14, and are thus distinguishable over Hiller and Davis at least due to their dependence.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claim 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hiller in view of Davis and further in view of Cotton.

Claim 15 depends from claim 14 and requires all the elements of claim 14. Cotton fails to cure the deficiencies of Hiller and Davis. Accordingly, claim 15 is distinguishable over Hiller, Davis, and Cotton.

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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